HOUSE No. 1244

By Mr. Larkin of Pittsfield, petition of Peter J. Larkin and others relative to the Community College Workforce Training Incentive Program. Higher Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PETITION OF:

Peter J. Larkin Jeffrey Sánchez

Marie P. St. Fleur William Smitty Pignatelli

James B. Leary William Lantigua Michael R. Knapik Mary E. Grant Edward G. Connolly Joyce A. Spiliotis John W. Scibak John H. Rogers

In the Year Two Thousand and Five.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE WORKFORCE TRAINING INCENTIVE PROGRAM.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

- 1 Chapter 15A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2000
- 2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out section 15F
- and inserting in place thereof the following:
- 4 Section 15F. It is hereby declared to be the policy of the com-
- 5 monwealth to encourage public community college training
- 6 opportunities in order to promote workforce development, mini-
- 7 mize the shortage of skilled workers and raise economic opportu-
- 8 nity. To further this policy, there is hereby established a matching
- 9 incentive grant program, subject to appropriation, to be known as
- 10 the community college workforce training incentive program. The
- 11 board of higher education shall establish guidelines for the distrib-
- 12 ution of community college workforce training incentive grants;
- 13 provided, however, that said guidelines shall provide: (i) allow-
- 14 able incentive grant awards which shall not exceed \$200 for every
- 15 \$1,000 in eligible revenues; and (ii) minimum requirements for

16 level of credit or not-for-credit vocationally-oriented instruction which shall be provided by incentive grant recipients in the fiscal year in which such grant is awarded. For the purposes of this section, eligible revenues shall be defined as revenues by a com-20 munity college for one of the following purposes: tuition and fees shared by students and their Massachusetts employers in credit or not-for-credit vocationally-oriented courses; tuition and fees paid by students enrolled in not-for-credit vocationally-oriented courses; tuition and fees paid by Massachusetts employers on behalf of employees enrolled in credit or not-for-credit vocationally-oriented courses; and revenues from service contracts with Massachusetts employers to provide credit or not-for-credit voca-27 tionally-oriented training. Revenues from contracts with public agencies, public grants or private gifts shall not be considered eligible revenues for the purpose of this section. Incentive grants 31 shall be expended for the following purposes: to expand credit or not-for-credit vocationally-oriented course offerings; to expand credit or not-for-credit vocationally-oriented instruction provided through contracts with Massachusetts employers; and the otherwise promote credit or not-for-credit vocationally-oriented 36 instruction. The total aggregate amount of incentive grants awarded by the board shall not exceed \$2,500,000 in any fiscal year. Each community college campus shall report not later than 39 December 31, annually, to the board of higher education, the 40 house and senate committees on ways and means, and the joint committee on education, arts and humanities, on the level of credit 42 or not-for-credit vocationally-oriented instruction provided in the preceding fiscal year and the anticipated level of such instruction 44 in the current fiscal year. Said report shall detail enrollment levels, 45 revenues received, sources of revenues, the number of service 46 contracts established with Massachusetts employers and such 47 other information as the board of higher education may require.